

DESERTER OF WIFE STAGE "VILLIAN" NOW

Mrs. Ida R. Jones Sees Missing
Husband in Vaudeville
Sketch.

SUIT FOR DIVORCE ENTERED YESTERDAY

After Compromising Charge of Em-
bezzlement John S. Jones, Now
Known as Clyde Armstrong, Left
His Wife and Little Child Here
Five Years Ago.

Through her attorneys, Messrs. Lett and Massie, Mrs. Ida R. Jones, housekeeper at the St. Francis hospital, yesterday brought suit in the clerk's office of the Corporation Court for an absolute divorce from her husband, John S. Jones, who appeared at the Bell theater last week as Clyde Armstrong in the playlet, "The Tie That Binds." Desertion is the ground on which the separation is sought.

In the playlet in which he appeared here last week, Jones plays a part which his wife alleges is very similar to the one he has played in the drama of life. Jones is represented in the show as having deserted his wife and child "sixteen years ago."

Deserted Wife and Child.
Mrs. Jones was married in this city about eight years ago and she and her husband lived together about three years. He got into trouble here five years or more ago, being arrested on a charge of embezzlement. The money was returned and the charge was not pressed. Shortly after that, it is alleged, Jones deserted his wife and little child.

So far as is known he was not heard from here again until he appeared at the Bell theater last week.

Recognized by His Wife.
On the opening night of his engagement, last Monday, Mrs. Jones was occupying a seat in the front row of the theater. As soon as Jones appeared, he was recognized by his wife. It is said that Mrs. Jones attended several other of the performances.

Detective Sergeant John W. Reynolds and many other people who knew Jones here years ago and who visited the Bell last week recognized the man. Jones closed his engagement Saturday night and left town Sunday, going to another city to perform with his company.

SOCIAL PERSONAL

Mrs. L. A. Cone, of this city, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John Hancock, in Richmond.

Miss Lelia Gordon Atkinson, who has been spending some time at Highland Springs, Va., has gone to New York and Canada for a visit of two weeks.

Mrs. Thomas Brooks and children are visiting Mrs. Brook's father, Mr. Warren Reeves, in Richmond.

Mr. A. M. Pence, a prominent attorney of Los Angeles, Cal., is visiting his brother, Mr. C. P. Pence, 1021 Twenty-fourth street.

Messrs. William Garner and Sol Peyser left Sunday night for New York.

Miss Gilliam Taft has returned to Washington, D. C., after spending two weeks as the guest of her aunt, Mrs. W. J. Bright, on Thirtieth street.

Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Palen, who have been spending several weeks at Narragansett, L. I., have returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Morgan are visiting at Hot Springs, Va.

Mr. George Nelms Wise has returned from Warm Springs, Va., where he spent sometime with Mrs. Wise, who

is visiting at her old home in that place.

Mrs. G. G. Bray is the guest of relatives in Gloucester county.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Mutersbaugh and Miss Ethel Gammell, of Halifax county, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. West, in North End.

Mrs. P. F. Ware and children have gone to Louisiana to spend the remainder of the summer with Mrs. Ware's father.

Mrs. Walter Parish left yesterday for Philadelphia, where she is to visit relatives.

Mr. H. A. Connell is spending his vacation at Pen Mar, Pa.

Misses Lillie and Margaret Michie are visiting relatives in Charlottesville, Va.

Mr. Rex R. Flury has returned to Richmond after a short visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Flury, on Twenty-sixth street.

Mr. W. Norman, who has been visiting in Danville and Leesville, N. C., has returned to this city.

Miss Francis Pascucci, of Danville, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Charles M. Talman, 229 Twenty-ninth street.

Mr. Harry Shawen will return this week from Leesburg, Va., where he is visiting relatives.

Mr. A. A. Applewhite left Sunday for Palaski, where he will spend two weeks with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Weaver have returned from a month's visit to Buffalo Lithia Springs, Va.

Mrs. F. E. Wood, of East End, is visiting friends and relatives in Essex and Richmond counties.

Mrs. W. E. Townsend and daughter, Miss Hannah, who have been visiting Mrs. Townsend's mother, Mrs. A. W. Rounds, in this city, have returned to their home in Cambridge, Md.

Master Warren Smith was successfully operated upon yesterday for throat trouble at his home, 136 Twenty-ninth street.

Dr. Clarence Porter Jones will leave this week for Europe. After witnessing the production of the Passion Play in Switzerland, he will go to Scotland to take a professional course in the University of Edinburgh.

Mrs. S. J. Bradshaw and little son, Master Pierce, are visiting friends in Suffolk, Va.

Mrs. J. W. Hudgins, Mrs. L. E. Pugh and Mrs. J. C. Hudgins, of 101 Twenty-seventh street, spent the past week in Washington, D. C., sightseeing and visiting friends.

Mrs. Schoof and Miss Elizabeth Schoof, of Baltimore, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. George Kopp, on Forty-fifth street, have returned home.

Miss Edith Greene, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. M. B. Rhodes, in this city, has returned to her home in Richmond.

Miss Mary Dial, who has been spending a month with her sister, Mrs. Henry Daughtrey, in East End, has returned to her home in Toano.

Mrs. M. M. Bradley, in East End, has as her guest, her sister, Miss Bertha Crump, of Washington, D. C.

The Misses Gregory, on Huntington avenue, have as their guest, their cousin, Miss Betha Gregory, of Norfolk.

Mr. Leo Roth, of Hamilton, Ohio, is visiting his sister, Mrs. James Maloney, in this city.

Miss Margaret Thompson, of Richmond, is visiting relatives in this city.

Miss Beatrice Klingamson, who has been visiting in Mecklenburg county, has returned home.

Miss Margaret Allison, who has been visiting in Nottaway county, has returned to her home in this city.

FIVE DAYS IN THE MOUNTAINS. ANNUAL MOUNTAIN EXCURSION

VIA
CHESAPEAKE & OHIO RAILWAY,
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18.

5-DAYS IN THE MOUNTAINS—
Leave Old Point 9:30 a. m. and
Newport News 10:00 a. m. Tickets
good returning on all regular trains
until TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, inclu-
sive. Rates to stations: Charlottesville,
\$4.00; Ashland, \$3.00; Basic to Staunton,
\$4.00; Goshen to Clinton Forge, \$4.50;
Covington to Hot Springs and White Sulphur, \$5.00; Natural Bridge, \$4.50.
Fast train—Excellent service—
Most attractive resorts.

Struck a Rich Mine.

S. W. Bends, of Coal City, Ala., says he struck a perfect mine of health in Dr. King's New Life Pills for they cured him of Liver and Kidney Trouble after 12 years of suffering. They are the best pills on earth for Constipation, Malaria, Headache, Dyspepsia, Debility. 25c at All Drug-
Carriages—Call W. E. Rouse.

JANITOR PROBLEM PUZZLES TRUSTEES

Board Unanimously Votes to
Accept Proposition from
Jones and Blanton.

BIDDERS MAY NOT FIND THE TERMS ACCEPTABLE

Provisions Requiring Employment of
Men, Repairing of Buildings, Includ-
ing Plumbing, Expected to Halt Ne-
gotiations — Petersburg Probably
Will Adopt System in Vogue Here.

Though it unanimously voted last night to award the contract for the janitor to Messrs. Jones and Blanton on their offer of \$3,000 per annum, the board of school trustees seems to be no nearer the solution of the "janitor problem" than it was two months ago. The trustees are satisfied that Messrs. Jones and Blanton will not enter into a contract to furnish for \$3,000 the service which the board wants and after they had adopted a form of contract for presentation to the bidders today, they passed a resolution directing the committee on buildings and grounds to arrange for the janitor service for the opening of the schools in the event that the contract drawn up and adopted by the board is not accepted by Messrs. Jones and Blanton.

During the two hours the board spent in wrestling with the problem of janitor cost last night, additional information about what this cost represents came to light and a majority of the trustees are satisfied that the service heretofore supplied cannot be had for much less than \$4,250 per annum without jeopardizing the safety of the school children. The item of janitors' salaries can be materially reduced by replacing most of the male janitors with negro women, but the trustees do not think that it will be safe to trust the women with the running and care of the big furnaces in the school buildings.

Committee Reports on Cost.
Pursuant to instructions from the board, the committee on buildings and grounds reported that it had thoroughly investigated the janitor cost and that it had estimated that the service could not be furnished for less than \$3,240 for nine months (no repairs to buildings in vacation or supplies included) unless the board placed negro women in charge of the furnaces. The committee would not recommend that this be done.

Clerk Tabb read a letter from the clerk of the school board at Petersburg stating that the cost of the janitor service in the Petersburg school during the past school session of nine months was \$2,641.50 and that all repair work to the buildings, sewers, plumbing, desks, etc., was let by contract and cost the board \$2,902.47 for the session. The Petersburg clerk further stated that during the coming session the Petersburg board would adopt the plan in vogue here of having the repairs done by the janitors in and out of vacation as it had found this would be the cheaper method.

Col. Huffman immediately moved that the board enter into a contract with Messrs. Jones and Blanton for five years at \$3,000 per annum for the janitor service. Col. Huffman said that he was opposed to "farming the service out," but that this was the cheaper method of getting the janitor work done and that he favored saving all money possible.

"Wild Cat" Proposition.

Chairman Sutton, of the committee on buildings and grounds, declared that he considered this a "wild cat proposition on the part of those fellows and a wild cat proposition on our part to take such action." He did not think the board should let any contract for the janitor service as the trustees, a superintendent and principals could have no authority over the janitors.

At this point a recess of fifteen minutes was taken while a form of contract for presentation to Messrs. Jones and Blanton could be drawn up. Mr. Batchelor set to work on the contract and the other trustees furnished him with suggestions. Under the contract drawn by the trustees, the firm must furnish an ordinary janitor service and do all repairing and painting of buildings, fences, wood work, window sashes, blackboards and desks, and keep the furnaces, sewers, plumbing, drains and the gas engine in the Central school in repair and move such school desks as may be required during the session. All materials are to be furnished by the board. Besides this, the contract requires that a man shall be kept in each school building to run furnaces during the months that it is necessary to heat the building.

Committee is Named.

After the contract had been approved by the board, Mr. Harrison moved that the chairman appoint a

Just Try G. R. S. Special.

Ambulances—Call W. E. Rouse.

committee of three to present the contract to Messrs. Jones and Blanton. Acting President (Blvin) named Messrs. Batchelor, Harrison and Christie on this committee.

Col. Huffman moved that the board set aside \$3,000 for the janitor service for next session, but the motion met with no second and then Mr. Harrison moved that the committee on buildings and grounds arrange for a janitor service for the opening of the schools if the contract is not accepted by Messrs. Jones and Blanton.

The buildings and grounds committee will report to the board on the action it has taken at the meeting in September.

HAS HELD NO MEETING IN ABOUT FIVE MONTHS

Council Committee On Ordinance and
Police Again Fails of
Quorum.

The council ordinance and police committee, which has not held a meeting in about five months, again failed of a quorum last night. The bills of the police department have been sent to the council by the chairman, but there are various matters of business awaiting the attention of the committee.

The fire department and water and buildings, grounds and lights, committees held regular meetings last night. Both audited bills for the past month and disposed of other routine business.

J. N. MCARDLE DEAD.

Former Resident of This City Passes
Away in Tennessee.

News was received here yesterday of the death at Johnson City, Tennessee, last Tuesday of J. N. McArdle, who formerly lived in this city. The funeral took place in Johnson City last Friday, interment being made in that city. Mr. McArdle has been suffering with the infirmities of old age and for the last two months of his life he was in a semi-conscious condition.

Mr. McArdle lived in Newport News a number of years, conducting a tailor shop here. He was a fine chess player and delighted in the game. He is survived by two sons, M. H. McArdle and John McArdle, and one daughter, Mrs. John Van-Ryn, formerly of this city, but now of Chicago.

Held for Lunacy Commission.

Isaac Brown, the negro who ran himself into jail early Sunday morning while under the hallucination that several negroes were chasing him for the purpose of killing him, was ordered held for a commission of lunacy by Justice Brown, in the police court, yesterday morning.

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EFFECTUALLY; DISPELS
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AND CHILDREN—YOUNG
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the fabric, takes out the stains
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medicinal purposes. We re-
commend it to our trade and the
public, believing our long ex-
perience is a sufficient guaran-
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